

**10/517295**

**DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 DEC 2004**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE**

|                   |   |                   |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| Applicants:       | S. Carroll, et al.  |                   |
| Int. Appln. No:   | PCT/US03/19172  |                   |
| Int. Filing Date: | 17 June 2003  |                   |
| US Appln. No.:    | To Be Assigned  | Case No.: 21122YP |
| Filed:            | Concurrently Herewith   |                   |
| For:              | NUCLEOSIDE DERIVATIVES AS INHIBITORS<br>OF RNA-DEPENDENT RNAVIRAL<br>POLYMERASE |                   |

Art Unit: TBA

Examiner: TBA

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 2 of this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this response. **Remarks** begin on page 8 of this response.

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**  
DATE OF DEPOSIT 12-7-04  
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 421341774425  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL  
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DATE 12-7-04